

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

an input/output (I/O) device; ~~said I/O device~~ being operative to:

receive a fragment of electronic data; ~~data, and further being operative to~~

examine the fragment of electronic data; and

if the fragment of electronic data comprises latency-sensitive data, the I/O device

identify at least a portion of the contents of said fragment of electronic

data, and further being operative to moderate one or more interrupts of an

associated computing platform processor, based at least in part on the at

least a portion of said contents.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the latency-sensitive
data at least a portion of said contents comprises an acknowledgement (ACK).
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said I/O device comprises a network interface card (NIC).
4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the latency-sensitive

data at least a portion of said contents comprises one or more data packets that have a priority designation.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said I/O device is configured to moderate by substantially immediately asserting said one or more interrupts of said associated computing platform processor.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said I/O device is configured to moderate by deferring said one or more interrupts of said associated computing platform processor so that a predetermined number of interrupts per unit of time is not exceeded.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said I/O device is configured to moderate by deferring said one or more interrupts until a particular number of fragments of electronic data of a particular type are received by said I/O device.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said I/O device is configured to moderate by deferring said one or more interrupts until a particular quantity of electronic data is received.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said moderation of associated computing platform interrupt scheme is configurable through a user interface.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising:

said I/O device further being operative to measure a particular period of time after the receipt of a fragment of electronic data, and further being

operative to moderate one or more interrupts of an associated computing platform after said particular period of time has elapsed.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of moderating one or more interrupts of an associated computing platform comprising:

receiving a fragment of electronic data;

~~identifying, at least partially, the contents of said~~ examining the fragment of electronic data; and

if the fragment of electronic data comprises latency-sensitive data, moderating

said one or more interrupts based ~~at least in part on said at least partially identified contents.~~
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said latency-sensitive data ~~at least partially identified contents~~ comprises an acknowledgement (ACK).
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said latency-sensitive data ~~at least partially identified contents~~ comprises one or more data packets that have a priority designation.
14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said moderating comprises substantially immediately interrupting said associated computing platform processor.
15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said moderating comprises deferring

said one or more interrupts of said associated computing platform processor if a predetermined number of interrupts per unit time is met or exceeded.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said moderating comprises deferring said one or more interrupts until a particular number of fragments of electronic data of a particular type are received.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said moderating comprises deferring said one or more interrupts until a particular quantity of electronic data is received.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said moderating is configurable through a user interface.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11, and further comprising:

measuring a particular period of time after the receipt of a fragment of electronic data; and

performing said moderating after said particular period of time has elapsed.

20. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a storage medium;

said storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that when executed by a computing platform, result in execution of a method of processing latency sensitive electronic data comprising:

receiving a fragment of electronic data;

~~at least partially identifying the contents of at least a portion of said~~ examining the
fragment of electronic data; and

if the fragment of electronic data comprises latency-sensitive data, moderating
said one or more interrupts ~~based at least in part on said at least partially~~
~~identified contents~~.

21. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein said latency-sensitive data
~~at least partially identified contents~~ comprises an acknowledgement (ACK).
22. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein said latency-sensitive data
~~at least partially identified contents~~ comprises one or more data packets that
have a priority designation.
23. (Original) The article of claim 20, wherein said moderating comprises
substantially immediately interrupting said associated computing platform
processor.
24. (Original) The article of claim 20, wherein said moderating comprises deferring
said interrupting of said associated computing platform processor.
25. (Original) The article of claim 20, wherein said moderating comprises deferring
said one or more interrupts until a particular number of fragments of electronic
data of a particular type are received.

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26. (Original) The article of claim 20, wherein said moderating comprises deferring said one or more interrupts until a particular quantity of electronic data is received.
27. (Original) The article of claim 20, wherein said moderating is configurable through a user interface.
28. (Original) The article of claim 20, and further comprising:
- measuring a particular period of time after the receipt of a fragment of electronic data; and
- performing said moderating after said particular period of time has elapsed.